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REPLY TO:

► LARKSPUR

October 19, 2007

\* ALSO ADMITTED IN COLORADO

The Honorable Joseph C. Spero  
Magistrate Judge of the U.S. District Court  
Northern District of California  
U.S. Courthouse  
450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3483

**Re: Oliver Meyer v. City of Albany, et al.**  
United States District Court, Northern District Case No. **C 07 3755 JCS**  
Our File No.: **GH-7294**  
Our Clients: **City of Albany and Officer Manny Torrez**

Dear Judge Spero:

I am writing to request authorization to appear on behalf of Defendants City of Albany and Officer Many Torrez in the stead of lead trial counsel, Ms. Ann Asiano, Esq. Ms. Asiano is unavailable to appear at the initial Case Management Conference on Friday, October 26, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. Pursuant to CIVIL LOCAL RULE 16-10 (a), I hereby request that Ms. Asiano be excused from appearing at the initial Case Management Conference. Further, I request authorization to appear in her stead as co-counsel and attorney of record for Defendants.

For your quick reference, I have enclosed the applicable part of RULE 16-10(a).

**16-10. Case Management Conference.**

1. **(a) Initial Case Management Conference.** Unless otherwise ordered, no later than the date specified in the Order Setting Initial Case Management Conference, the Court will conduct an initial Case Management Conference. The assigned District Judge may designate a Magistrate Judge to conduct the initial Case Management Conference and, subject to 28 U.S.C. § 636, other pretrial proceedings in the case. *Unless excused by the Judge, lead trial counsel for each party must attend the initial Case Management Conference.*

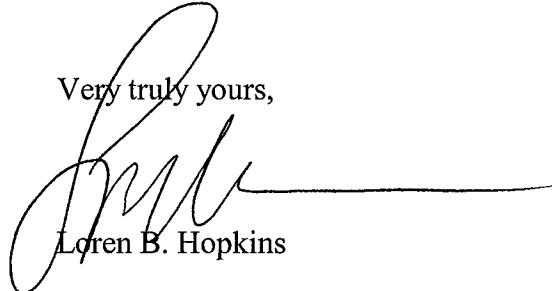
The Honorable Joseph C. Spero

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Thank you for your attention to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,



Loren B. Hopkins

LBH/sna

cc: Hunter Pyle, Esq. (*Via U.S. Mail*)  
Pamela Kong, Esq. (*Via U.S. Mail*)

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Dated: October 19, 2007

